

Appeal of Form 471 Not Being Certified

Leandra Wilson, Library Director

Entity Name: Sesser Public Library

Entity Number: 17017604

This was the first year this library applied for an eRate grant, so the librarian wasn't experienced with this grant. After filling out all the grant and receiving help from the Help Desk on March 22, 2018, our library submitting what we thought were all the final papers, etc. The librarian was told by the Help Desk at the time that our grant was completed that afternoon/evening.

After a month of waiting for emails from USAC, the librarian called someone who explained how to check the library's status in USAC. Upon checking our status, we found that our Form 470 and Form 471 had not been certified, but we weren't aware that the forms did need to be certified on March 22 when the forms were filed. There is no way that our librarian would have gone to all the work of filling out these forms only to have them disqualified from acceptance because of not filling out two simple forms.

So, we are asking for--no pleading--for understanding that a mistake was made on our part in not certifying our forms on time, but ask that an exception be made and that our library be awarded the eRate grant anyway. Please, please, consider our appeal, we really need it to be able to provide higher speed internet to our patrons.

Thank you,

Leandra Wilson, Library Director

Sesser Public Library 618-927-6566 or 618-927-6079